

THE MODERN JUNGLE.

Our Savage Ancestors Would be Ashamed of us.—No One Starved in the Midst of Plenty in Savagery.

When Jack London suggested the name for Upton Sinclair's famous book, "The Jungle," he hit the nail squarely on the head. The book describes conditions under capitalism. If ever savage man inhabited a jungle more cruel than the jungle we smart and civilized people call a "Christian civilization," that savage tribe may be excused for fighting its way out.

I don't often do it, but this week I am going to give you a few scraps of what the capitalist papers seem to regard as "news"—although it is the same old story over and over again every day. I want to give you a glimpse of what is going on in our jungle—in church, state and labor circles.

To begin with I want to remind you that the cork has been put in the cry of "back to the land." A great many workers thought they really meant it, and started for the country. But they were very rudely ordered to "move on."

As a substitute came the cry, "back to the church." The workers are now trying to take this advice—and get locked up! It is estimated that from three to five million people in this country are out of work. In New York the unemployed are moving on the churches for shelter at night. And why not? Why should people suffer and freeze in the streets when the so-called houses of God might shelter them? Read this:

New York, March 5.—One hundred and ninety-three members of the army of the unemployed were trapped in St. Alphonsus Catholic church in West Broadway and locked up by the police last night. The invasion which led to the raid took place just as the parishioners were gathering for a special Lenten service. Many knelt in prayer about the church. Frank Tannenbaum, the leader, and his followers entered without invitation or permission. They were sent to the Night Court.

Tannenbaum, in charge of detectives and followed by reporters, went into the rectory. There Father Schneider was applying of what had happened. Horror spread over his face as he learned how his church had been invaded.

"Why did you come here without invitation?" the priest demanded.

"Well, the Protestants had taken care of us for three nights and we thought we would give the Catholics a chance," Tannenbaum explained. "We thought it was in accord with the spirit of Christ."

"I don't want to argue that," the priest replied. "I don't see why you don't go to work. You cannot stay in my church." The detectives hustled him back to the church.

Meantime inside the church the scene was one of disorder and fear.

Father Hanley, as instant rector, climbed up on a rear pew and cried:

"You cannot profane this church. The blessed sacrament is here. You must leave."

"We will die before we will let you stay," muttered Brother Peter, who stood near the priest.

The men started to rise, but from the rear came voices calling to them:

"Sit down! We have a right to stay. Do not be afraid!"

At the first hint of trouble more than 100 of the army fled to the street. Those who tried to get out after the first rush found their way barred by police reinforcements.

"Wait here," the policemen told them, "until we decide what to do with you."

Commissioner McKay ordered out the reserves and all in the edifice were taken to the police station.

"Many knelt in prayer about the church," says the press dispatch, which indicates that many of the unfortunate were Catholics.

"You cannot profane this church. The blessed sacrament is here. You must leave," says Father Hanley to the homeless and hungry. How Christlike!

"Why did you come here without invitation?" demanded Father Schneider. Again how Christlike! But it seems to me they had an invitation. Haven't the papers all over the country contained paid advertisements urging people "back to the church?" And when these people accept the invitation they are arrested and locked up!

After the hungry work people had been safely locked up so they could not "profane the church," I suppose Father Schneider and Hanley retired to their rectory and plausibly ordered the "house-keeper" to bring on the booze and cigars.

The unemployed of the country is even causing alarm at Washington and a commission has been appointed to inquire what is wrong. Any Socialist in the ABC class could give the smart men at Washington this information, but that would deprive some useless citizens of the job of investigating. And these have to be kept on the pay-roll somehow.

Anyhow, they are getting figures on the unemployed MEN. No

attention is paid to women and children, which are probably half of the unemployed army. St. Louis reports 10,411. This is the police report. St. Louis Labor says that there are 50,000 unemployed—including women and children.

But the police report is official and we will take that. The police report says that about 2,000 of these are hobos, while the remainder are honestly seeking work they cannot find, and that nearly all of these live in St. Louis. Understand, we are only dealing with men—the women and children are not included.

Nobody will accuse the police of making a report more damaging to the existing order than they can help. They say that in St. Louis alone more than 8,000 men are honestly seeking work that they cannot find. Will some defender of the present system tell me what these men are to do? The same condition exists the country over.

One of the questions asked of the police by the government is: "Does unemployment increase the amount of crime?"

In St. Louis every police captain answered "yes"—except one. Capt. Mike O'Malley answered "no"—that "drink caused most of the crime in his district." You can bet that Mike is a Democrat.

St. Louis March 5.—George Mengel, 33 years old, was found dead of asphyxiation in his room at the home of Mrs. Emily Feeder, 1821 Lafayette avenue, Monday afternoon. He came to St. Louis from Cleveland a month ago looking for work. Tickets were found in his room indicating that he had pawned articles of jewelry.

St. Louis Star.—Michael George, 3655 Market street, a chain smoker, was taken unconscious by four highwaymen at 9:30 p. m. Monday and robbed of \$295, his savings of a lifetime, which he carried in a belt around one leg. He was sleeping in the Wabash round-house, Wabash tracks and Vandeventer avenue, when he was awakened by the men tugging at the belt. He resisted and was severely beaten.

Kansas City, Mo., March 4.—Because he thought Dominico Mollo, a bartender, had despoiled his home, Louis Bonanno, a grocer, fatally stabbed Mollo last night. Before he died Mollo drew a revolver and killed Bonanno and Bonanno's 6-year-old son, Johnny.

St. Louis Star.—Emil Genscho, 20 years old, 911 Market street, was held up by two men at Sixth and Spruce streets, at 3 p. m. Thursday and robbed of \$12. Chas. F. Metz, 4365 Papin street, was robbed of a purse containing \$22 while boarding a Market street car at Twelfth street, Thursday evening.

Jefferson City, Mo., March 4.—Gov. Major declined today an invitation to act as one of the judges of an old fiddlers' contest to be given under the management of the ladies of the Christian Church of Jefferson City, March 23.

That disease of the brain called "Holy Rollers" has broken out in St. Louis. The Star says: "Charles Enrich, for twenty-four years a horse-shoer, is the leader of the meetings. Enrich denied Friday that the sect is a branch of the Holy Rollers, but an observer of the ceremonies declared them to be much the same as those practiced by the Holy Rollers, which have caused them to be driven out of various communities in Missouri within the last few months."

"At the meeting Thursday night men and women, young boys and girls, seemingly carried away by religious ecstasy, arose and danced on the floor, jerked and quivered and closed the eyes as though unconscious."

"One man rolled on the floor and barked like a dog. Women appeared to be 70 and 75 years old danced and whirled like dervishes, clapped their hands and jumped two feet in the air."

Globe-Democrat.—E. Fred Gerold, former city treasurer of East St. Louis, yesterday gave bond for \$5,000 to guarantee his appearance before the St. Clair County Circuit Court in Belleville in which he was indicted Wednesday on the charge of embezzling money from the city of East St. Louis. This raised the total of Gerold's bonds on all of the East St. Louis so-called "graft cases" to \$39,500.

Chicago, Ill., March 4.—The total number of unemployed men in Chicago is 45,617, according to the complete returns of a canvass made by the Police Department at the request of the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations. A summary distributes the unemployed as follows: Residents of the city, 38,293; skilled workmen, 12,774; foreigners, 32,278; hunting work, 32,812; those who could find odd jobs in the neighborhood of their homes, 8138.

San Francisco, March 6.—The combined police force of Oakland and Berkeley and more than a score of Deputy Sheriffs Thursday surrounded the camp of more than 500 unemployed men near Emeryville. While a special detail of 100 policemen, mounted and carrying rifles, stood guard, the jobless followers of William Thorne, Industrial Workers of the World leader, were put on special street cars and sent outside the limits of the city.

Detroit, Mich., March 6.—Was commercialized vice eliminated when Police Commissioner Gillespie drove the inmates from the resorts out of the restricted district four months ago? The greatest raid ever witnessed in Detroit, conducted after 1 o'clock Friday morning at the instigation of Prosecuting Attorney Shepherd, resulted in the arrest of 247 persons who were taken from 25 places.

Columbia, S. C., March 6.—Search is being made in and near this city for a robber who looted the mail car of Southern Railway train No. 11 late last night under conditions absolutely identical with those which attended the holdup of the same train at the same spot two years ago. Just as the train was entering Columbia from Charleston a masked bandit entered the mail car and covered the mail clerk with a revolver.

Boston, Mass., March 4.—The unemployed marched up Beacon Hill today and asked for work from the Legislative Committee on Social Welfare. The parade was headed by Morrison L. Swift, who has been active in behalf of the unemployed for several years.

Women and men, claiming to be both skilled and unskilled workers, informed the committee that they had been out of work for months. Mr. Swift suggested that they be sent to a state farm.

Henry Sterling, a representative of the state branch of the American Federation of Labor, told the committee there were 50,000 persons in the state out of work.

San Francisco, Cal., March 3.—An "army of unemployed" broke camp today on a vacant lot and started on a march to Washington. There are twenty-four companies of ninety men each, and the men have all of the officers of a military regiment, except a paymaster. General C. P. Kelley is the commanding officer. The men marched to the ferry in two battalions led by buglers and drummers.

Norcross, Ga., March 4.—Angered because he was called several times, Luther Martin today jumped from bed, grabbed a revolver, shot and mortally wounded his wife, seriously injuring his mother-in-law, Mrs. Albert McKinney, missed his daughter, and then committed suicide by shooting himself through the head and cutting his throat with a razor.

Chicago, March 3.—Efforts to discover who was responsible for the explosion of a bomb in the rear of the home of Simon J. Gorman were being made by the detectives today. The explosion wrecked the porch of the Gorman home and threw Mrs. Gorman and her 2-year-old son from their beds.

Muskogee, Okla., March 4.—W. H. Wainwright, former treasurer of Muskogee county, was found guilty by a jury tonight of embezzling \$7,500 of county funds last year. The total of the sums alleged to have been embezzled reached \$55,000.

Newton, Ill., March 3.—The body of Perry A. Coleman, a school teacher of Jasper county, was found hanging to the bell rope at

the school house in Hunt City, where he was teaching, by the school boys.

Terre Haute, Ind., March 4.—Win Huffman who, with Mayor Don M. Roberts and eight others, was indicted for participation in Terre Haute election frauds, was found guilty by a jury today.

Denver, Colo., March 3.—That 10 per cent of the women of child-bearing age are engaged in prostitution or occasional prostitution was the startling remark made today by Judge Ben M. Lindsey at the discussion luncheon of the Civic Federation. The figures were given in the answer to Miss Gertrude Valles' talk on the deficiencies and faults of the mothers' compensation act in Colorado.

"The state should put a premium on motherhood," he said, "instead of penalizing it, as we do today. It is an appalling fact that about one-half of the women of child-bearing age are unmarried. As a result of this condition, the investigations throughout the country show that in nearly all the large cities 10 per cent of the women of child-bearing age are engaged in prostitution or occasional prostitution. The legitimate birth rate is on the increase, while the illegitimate birth rate is on the decrease. This is not so much a reflection on the woman as on society. Itself, on a civilization that is fast becoming a conspiracy against nature."

HE KNEW IT WAS THERE.

Thursday of last week Andrew Dimberger of New Hamburg was in to complain of such of what appeared in the Kicker. He could quote much of the Kicker "by heart." Knowing that he was active in trying to get everybody else to quit reading it, I felt sure he thought enough of his own salvation to take no chances on going to hell by reading the Kicker himself. For such a sin one would probably have to leave the county to get a "volkommener ablass" at anything like a reasonable price.

Although I assured Andy that I made no effort to run the paper to please him and his crowd, he continued to tell me about what had appeared in a way that I did not believe anybody could beat it—except, possibly, Father Moenig—when a happy thought struck me. Grinning from ear to ear, I asked, "Andy, how do you know it was in the Kicker?"

He hesitated a bit and replied: "Your Kicker readers tell me."

"But they might be mistaken about it. People are sometimes mistaken about what appears in the papers," I insisted.

"No, they ain't. I've there, I know it's there," he insisted. Read the unmuzzled Kicker.

ALWAYS "THE GOAT."

There is very little litigation in Bollinger county nowadays. A few criminal cases, due it is said to the absence of saloons—Pemisecot Argus.

Sure! What would capitalism do if it could not use the saloon and "Providence" to saddle its sins on. That the saloon causes crime there is no doubt. But what causes the saloon? Why do you fellows never scratch under the surface of things. Why would engage in the saloon business—except for the profit there is in it?

But, let's look a little deeper and see if it is the absence of saloons that has made Bollinger county so law-abiding. Bollinger county is hilly. The people there are mostly home-owners. Being hilly the landlord has not invaded that territory. Hill land washes and the tenant will not look after the washes as the owner does. Hence hill land is not very profitable to the landlord and he lets it alone. The same condition applies to Cape Girardeau, Perry and St. Genevieve counties. The counties are populated by home-owners. And all of them have saloons galore! And in none of them can you find one-half the crime and litigation as in the rack-rented, landlord cursed counties to the south of them.

But some people can never see anything but the saloon and the crap shooter.

THE BLACK NIGHT.

I am in receipt of a card from a subscriber which shows in what fear and subjection Catholics are held by their priests. The card was mailed on Commerce rural route, and I think the writer is a member of Kelso parish. He is a good citizen and one who, I thought, had some backbone. But it seems that the strongest of these sometimes yield to the damnable superstition and fear that yet survives the Black Night of the Dark Ages. He writes: "I will let you know that I don't want the Kicker any longer. We are not allowed to read it."

There you have it—the same tyrannical power that kept the world in darkness by torturing and burning men, women and children only a few centuries ago is still on the job.

This subscriber wants the Kicker and has paid for it until November—but he is "not allowed to read it."

Why? Don't the Fourth of July orators tell us this is a free country?

But the priests are not to blame. They have got to keep the blinders on their dupes—or go to work.

DEPRAVED JOURNALISM.

Just why people want to spend their money to get to read the factory sloop that appears in many rural newspapers can only be attributed to ignorance. They do not know that the alleged editorials of "eye editors" are sent out from the press bureaus of the political parties. Last week the following appeared in nearly all of the Democratic organs that reached the Kicker:

"Helen Keller, the famous blind woman, is making speeches for the suffragists. Incidentally she states that she is a Socialist. But neither suffrage nor Socialism is a remedy for blindness. When Miss Keller gets ready to announce that she is a Democrat we shall no longer believe in her blindness."

Helen Keller is the wonder of the present age. She was born deaf, dumb and blind. Yet her writings energy has given her a fine education, so that her writings are eagerly sought by the leading publications of the country, and her lectures are attended by the brainiest of men.

Think of it. Born deaf dumb and blind! Would you not as soon try to get an idea into a block of wood—or a Democratic editor?

Yet this young woman overcame all these obstacles and the world of science and learning applauds. Yet the press degenerates try to ridicule her because she has a sympathy with human sympathy and can see—even though physically blind—that Socialism is the only way out of the capitalist hell into which she was born.

SAVE YOUR MONEY.

Wednesday of last week a Cape Girardeau paper contained this advertisement of the First National Bank of that city:

"HARD LABOR. How would you like to work 365 days in the year, all day, all night? Sounds impossible, doesn't it? Yet that is exactly what your money is doing when deposited in our SAVINGS Department where it draws 4 per cent interest annually."

On the following day, in the same paper, appeared these headlines across the front page:

"First National Bank Closes Doors. Tremendous excitement of Subdued Nature Created this Morning when Sign on Door of Well-Known Institution Announced that it is in Charge of National Bank Examiner."

This concern had on deposit about four hundred thousand dollars of the people's money. The usual announcement that it given out and published, that it is so bad, and that depositors went to lose anything, appeared.

The cause of the failure is alleged to be due to the speculations of the cashier, L. S. Joseph, and the first announcement had it that the bank was in the hole about \$75,000.

D. A. Glenn, a business man of recognized ability and integrity is president of the bank. Both Glenn and Joseph told us in 1912 to put the Democrats in and they would fix it.

Read the unmuzzled Kicker.

IN THE SOUTHEAST.

What the People are Doing in Other Counties that are Near.

Hayti, Critic.—The Catholic church has been fighting Socialism for many years, but now that the Socialist party demands has been superseded by the democratic party, it the church will have to turn its attention to fighting the president, his secretary of state and congress, for they are passing and introducing socialist measures. Taxing the rich is one; low tariff or no tariff another; the parcel post another; the Alaska railway another; the working of the Alaska coal fields another; the proposition to take over the telephone and telegraph lines two more. We could go on ad infinitum and show the reader the democratic party is nothing except socialism, and that the progressive party was socialist in twenty-three of its planks. If this is Socialism, its good enough for anyone, but we are perplexed to know how the Catholic church is going to accept it at the hands of the democratic party today.

Who are such blatant ignoramuses as to think the socialist measures passed and advocated are not socialist in their nature, and it is probable the Catholic church will not know that the whole country is going socialist faster than Bill Hendrick was thrown from his mule, and Bill being asked how quick he was thrown, replied: "Quicker'n hell."

Farmington News.—Judge K. C. Weber of the St. Francis County Juvenile Court had before him last Saturday two of the granddaughters of the notorious Sam Hilderbrand. These two girls were aged 14 and 15 years and are the children of George Hilderbrand of Ethel, each is the mother of an illegitimate child. E. W. Powell is now in jail and will be brought into court today to answer to the charge of rape as to the younger of the Hilderbrand girls. We understand he is willing to marry the girl and that the father favors dismissing the charge against him if he would do this but Judge Weber and Prosecuting Attorney Benham both think that if he is guilty he ought to be given a sentence and paroled on conditions that he marry the girl and maintain her and the child.

At the election this fall there will be chosen a United States Senator, one Judge of Division No. 1 of the Supreme Court, State Superintendent of Public Schools, 10 Congressmen, 17 state senators, from even numbered districts and one in the Platt County district to fill a vacancy. About judges in a few districts, and county officers except sheriffs, treasurers and coroners. Eight constitutional amendments were submitted by the legislature and 4 so far have been submitted under initiative and referendum petitions. June 3 will be the last date for candidates to file declarations prior to submitting their claims at the State primary, Aug. 4.

Pemisecot Argus.—There is considerable unfavorable comment on the reappointment of Robert H. Terrell, colored, as Judge of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia. The term of office of four judges expired the first of the year, three whites and a black. The black's name has been sent to the Senate for confirmation. It is well known that Senator Vardaman of Mississippi will oppose all such appointments. These are presidential offices. He is understood on the recommendation of the Attorney General. A lively scrap in the Senate is promised.

Glenn Smith, teacher at the Roberts school, Cape county, was seriously stabbed by Willie Haupt a pupil and the 14-year-old son of C. W. Haupt, a prosperous farmer. The boy had used offensive language in school and the teacher proceeded to punish him. The boy was arrested and placed under \$1,000 bond. The teacher was stabbed in the chest cavity and his recovery is in doubt.

In the St. Louis Republic of March 6 appeared this: "Suit was filed in the Circuit Court yesterday in the interest of Charles Edward and Beulah Boardman children of Stephen Boardman against W. P. Mesler & Co., for \$10,000 damages for the death of Boardman. He was employed as a laborer by the Mesler Company which conducts a box factory at Forest, Mo., and was killed by being crushed by logs March 6. It is alleged."

Jackson Items.—The County Court will before long be confronted with the unpleasant duty of providing more revenue, because the revenue fund is very low and will be exhausted before long. Salaries cannot be continually increased and new offices created without either the money giving out or necessitating additional income.

An auditing of the books of the St. Louis county officials discovered shortages amounting to \$55,000. Officialdom everywhere seems very rotten.

Subscribe for the only Kicker.

A showman shipped from Little Rock, Ark., two Shetland ponies and a box which he said contained snakes. The box was tied with ropes and he requested the express messenger to keep the box "This side up" which the messenger agreed to do. At Poplar Bluff there was a change of messengers, and the retiring one forgot to give instructions about the box. The new messenger rearranged things and set the box on end. Presently a human voice proceeded from the box and, upon opening it, an 18-year-old boy was found in it almost dead. The new arrangement of the box stood him on his head. Investigation revealed that the showman had attempted to ship the lad from Monroe, La., to Chicago as baggage and was successful until Poplar Bluff was reached, where the retiring messenger forgot to give instructions about the box.

Fredericktown News. The coal chute at Bismark caught fire from a spark and burned Monday evening. The structure and coal burned fiercely for over three hours and the business part of town was saved with difficulty.

BEGINNING TO POUND.

To one who understands the game it is both amusing and disgusting to watch the same old shell-game worked year in and year out. The kept crossroads news papers are beginning to say all sorts of nice things about secretary of State Root and, in an article on the subject, the Pemisecot Argus concludes:

"The newspapers of Missouri have been quick to intimate in one way and another, that Cornelius Root looms large in all their calculations about the next race for governor."

Of course the thornier handed sons of toil do not understand why the newspapers of Missouri are wobbling all over Root. It is this way: There will be a large batch of constitutional amendments to be published in each county this fall. It is the latest of the papers get—and you don't get any unless you go on hand for the party; and the secretary of state who has the signing out of it. While it is a clean pick-up of several hundred dollars, you can have my slice of it for a nickel.

And not until the power is taken from officials—both state and county—to this tribe newpapers with public printing will there be even a semblance of freedom or honesty of the press toward the people.

FOUR AT A TIME.

Fatwood, Tenn., March 4.—Three daughters and a son were born last night to Mrs. Corbett Coplinger, wife of a farmer near here. The physician said the four babies were in perfect form and health and that the mother is no more ill than under usual conditions.

TO PRINTERS.

Having put in a type-casting machine the Kicker has for sale several hundred pounds of 6, 8 and 10-point new type in good condition at a bargain. Also 75 pounds of 10-point mailing type and other material.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that letters of administration upon the estate of Julius Albrecht deceased have been granted to the undersigned by the Judge of the Probate Court of Scott County, Missouri, in vacation, bearing date the 25th day of February, 1914.

All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within six months from date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate, and if said claims be not exhibited within one year from the date of publication of this notice they will be forever barred. JOHN W. ALBRECHT, Administrator.

LADIES!

I have just opened an up-to-date MILLINERY and LADIES FURNISHING SHOP in the Bollinger building and invite you to inspect my line. Miss Hazel Boker son of St. Louis, an up-to-date trimmer, will assist in trimming hats and taking measurements for tailor-made suits. Satisfaction guaranteed with all orders.

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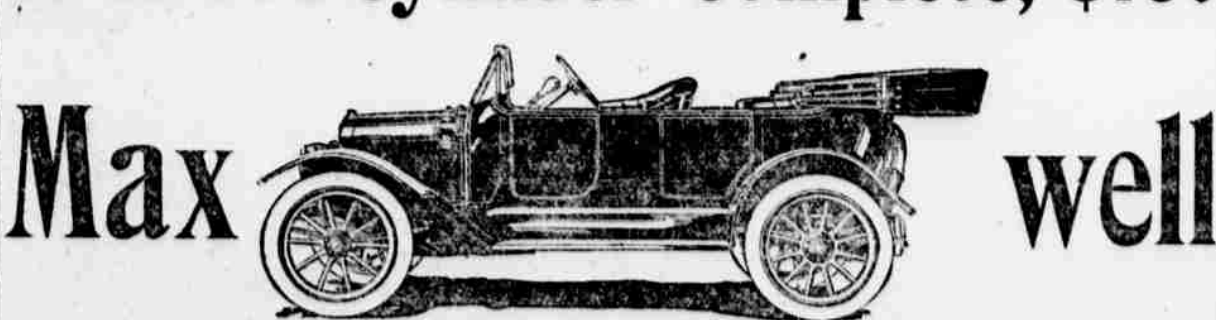
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